

# VALOR



A JOURNAL of INTERPRETATION for STUDENTS of SOULCRAFT

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## Courage Is the Business of Exploring Existence and Making One's Good or Bad Discoveries

**S**OMETIMES the commonest words in the language hold the most meaning, when we pause and consider them. For instance, thousands of us daily use the word, Courage. We understand generally the idea it expresses. The courageous man is the bold man, the intrepid man, the man inclined to be reckless in his disregard of consequences when he faces a condition where initiative is demanded and the outcome is in doubt. But behind this simple term is concealed a great agenda of cosmic principles, whose significance is lost unless we know the Ageless Wisdom.

The word Courage derives from the old French word *coeur*, meaning *heart*. And yet the dictionary defines Courage as "that quality of mind which enables one to meet danger and difficulties with firmness." Courage is a quality of *mind*, apparently, which of course in mystical terminology means *Consciousness*. But we who have done our examinings into the Lore of the Cosmic see Courage for quite something else.

It is an evincement of cosmic daring, of a sort.

Courage is that innate impulsion in the human ego that

causes the Soul to explore the environment in which it finds itself and abide by what it finds, either to its benefit or damage!

Those who are adepts in the supernal Soulcraft Disclosures, recognize that the

**P**erhaps On Earth



**G**ood Will toward Men

Soul is in mortality to render itself constructively familiar with the earthly processes Holy Spirit has provided for its education. Certain souls shrink timidly from receiving such instruction. Actually, it seems, the courageous man—and of course, woman—is the one who faces the crises of life readily, knowing in their subconscious or eternal beings that no matter what outcome hinges on a given course of action, the result in any event must be profit. If the course be a wrong one, that fact will become apparent. With realization of it imbedded in the subconscious, the experience will be there in memory to shape an alternate judgment when repetition of a situation arises later on in life, or in some life in future. This realization must be exactly as profitable as though the decision had been an opposite one and resulted in increment.

The thing that counts, apparently, is the willingness of the soul to venture and learn.

*This willingness is Courage!*

**T**HE BIG thing that Soulcraft devotees come finally to accept is the fact that all which happens to the soul, either in mortal or celestial experience, is *profit*. Learning that a given course of action is a wrong one can be equally as profitable—in the long throw of cosmic endurance—as learning that a given course of action is a right one. The



"wrong way" is merely a negative way of reaching a conclusion, whereas the "right way" is positive. It is just as necessary to learn what ways are wrong—to gain a given life-objective—as to learn what ways are right, since one implies the other.

So the courageous man or woman says, "Desiring to know what Cosmos holds in the way of experience for me, I go forward anyhow and observe what is taught me by the practical reactions from what I encounter."

This willingness to learn, again is Courage.

However, there is yet another element to Courage which we should in no wise overlook.

Considered in the main, it is relying—in a given course of exploration—on no strength but its own!

**I**T DOESN'T require much courage to surge forward upon a battlefield when ten thousand men are surging forward in concert. But the lone man, who pushes forward into No Man's Land in a solitaire performance in the cold and the dark, we declare to be heroic.

Why? Because he is manifestly relying upon no strength but his own.

Well, souls are in life to do just that—to discover by excruciating experience that the lone soul does have strength, can use it and profit by it in self-confidence, becomes sufficient unto itself, and grasps its inherent capabilities or develop its self-reliance.

**T**HE SOULCRAFT Doctrine is a doctrine of courage—physically, intellectually, and spiritually. It says to the human spirit, "You are inherently divine in your composition, exploring a universe that brings forth the finest in you, making you strong and valiant and lovable, developing the godhood within you, causing you to understand all things and enjoy all things, to crown your existence with success and happiness and self-control.

"You are supposed to learn to be afraid of nothing in this created Cosmos. You are in life to acquaint yourself fearlessly with every phase of it. As you acquiesce to the program that Divine Providence has forecast for you, so you are courageous."

Is it taking intestinal fortitude merely to get through the world? What sort of a world would it be that was easy and languid and effortless and purposeless?

What are you doing when you are courageous?

You are acquiescing to Divine Providence's program of making a finished and accomplished god of you!

Don't you want to be a god?

*Cosmos is making you one, whether you cooperate or not!*

## J. T. Trowbridge, Booth Tarkington, Concede Hyperdimensional Existence

**J. T. TROWBRIDGE**, a novelist who wrote extensively for Americans in the years following the Civil War, had the courage of his convictions in expressing himself about Spiritism when he wrote in his autobiography—

"Fully a half-century ago I became familiar with the phenomena of Spiritualism and had in my early and late investigations of them some quite astounding experiences which no argument based upon hypnotism, thought transference, subliminal consciences or any thing of that sort under what ever guise could ever explain away. I was convinced that under all the frauds and foibles that could be charged against mediums and their dupes, there were living truths that man had spirit-discerning powers and that those who have embarked before us into the Unknown may send back to

us signals more or less intelligible through the mists that have closed in upon their voyage. I found in the communications so much that was confused and misleading that I gradually ceased to consult them after I had become fully satisfied as to their source. But the faith thus established has never faltered, and to it I have owed, especially in times of bereavement, many consolations. Even though the identity of the voices may sometimes rest in doubt, yet much remains. The assurance remains not new indeed, but once more vitally renewed that Mind has occult faculties rarely developed in this state of existence which presuppose a more etherial condition fitted for their unfolding as a submerged bud struggling upward from ooze and grouping dimly through the grosser elements is a prophecy of the light and air in which it is to open and flower."

## What Booth Tarkington Thought About It

**BOOTH TARKINGTON** wrote in regard to Seachers for Evidence of Survival of Death—

"Only levity sneers now at those patient men who have sought truth in the dust heap of spiritual research, but they have not yet failed, neither have they shown the Truth if they have found it so that all men may see it and know that it is indeed Truth. Their task is heavy but it is the greatest one for it is the task that must be done before civilization can begin.

"To lift the Burden of the Unknown from the human soul, and destroy the Great Darkness, is the work which engages them. Men can not be seen in the daylight until the night becomes knowable."

It seems too that the popularity of such hymns as "Lead Kindly Light" shows

that Christians instinctively know that *survival of Death is merely a matter of gaining more Light.*

## Spread the Wisdom

**U**NDoubtedly many of your friends would like to hear from you at Yuletide with the gift of a Pelley book. **STAR GUESTS** is particularly pertinent because it expounds the whole agenda of the Soulcraft Doctrine and prepares the intellect to understand the weekly Scripts.

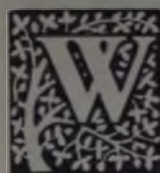
Help spread the Wisdom by circulating as many Soulcraft books as you're able. If you send in your order now, we will include a Christmas gift-card with your name as donor upon it, and mail direct.

*But get your order off at once!*



## Extraordinary Enlightenment Offered in December-January Soulcraft Scripts

### Script Twenty on Coming of Christ Heads List of Topics of Current Significance



WE HAVE some wonderful Scripts in prospect, in this Soulcraft enlightenment.

On December 10th we have a lengthy mentor-exounding on "Why the Dead Are So Silent" or why the average soul that graduates into the higher regions of Space and Time apparently makes no effort to acquaint those whom he has left behind in earth-life with the evidence of his survival. There seems to be a reason for it, apparently, and you will want to know what it is.

On December 17th, Soulcraft students are going to listen to a Master interpretation of the separateness of God and Holy Spirit—who God is, and what Holy Spirit is—and what the difference is, between the two, a problem that long has puzzled students of theology.

On December 24th, we are going to have a special Christmas broadcast, disclosing some hitherto undisclosed facts about the Elder Brother's birth, and hailing the Christmas episode for the stupendous event it is.

ON December 31st, Soulcraft students about the nation listening to Recordings, will hear a somewhat lengthy and enlightening Script on who and what Familiar Spirits are, and why the progenitors of all religious faiths have warned against them. Here is an illuminating Discourse for those who place their trust in psychical phenomena.

On January 6th, we are going to listen to a dissertation on the Miracles Performed by Holy Spirit, what Holy Spirit is, that it can do miracles, and what process is at work in actuating them.

On January 13th, a script is coming through on the Master wave-length, explaining how He accomplished the feat of feeding the Five Thousand with five loaves and two fishes. Inasmuch as He advises us we might do the same, you

will want to listen to His supernal adjurations.

On January 20th, we have a question answered that has been asked by scores in years past: What Karma truly is, and whether it is merely an oriental idiosyncrasy of doctrine or an actual fact of life. Karma appears to be a very real fact of life, and the 19th Script of the Soulcraft Doctrine contains a treatise upon it, settling the question for all time, dictated by Mentors who never equivocate in expounding such enigmas for our western minds. By no means does it appear to be the truth, that because the Hindu has described Karma as he views it, his concepts have been accurate.

On January 27th, one of the most tremendous Scripts in the whole series will be broadcast. It has to do with Christ's Second Coming. The Mentors report on this colossal event as they envision it. Why the notions about it put forward in Holy Writ are different from what probably will take place, are discussed. The Second Epiphany—or divine manifestation—of Christ is very close, according to all worldly signs. You will want to know what these signs are, and this Script acquaints you.

On the 3rd of February, a Script is coming through on what Incentive is, and why people require stimulants of various kinds, spiritual and otherwise, to get them through the Earth Experience.

Here is a vast and ineffable agenda of supernal information, that can be procured through no other agency in America today, ready for you Sunday by Sunday, as the dates arrive.

Soulcraft gives you an entirely new concept of life in mortality. Because the Aquarian Age has opened, in which enlightenment on these tremendous subjects is permissible, Higher Reaches and

Levels of Life are contacted, to bring it down upon this harassed and convulsed earth-plane.

The Scripts themselves are their own evidence as to whether this claim is correct.

There's not a Script on the program you can afford to miss!

### FAMOUS ASTRONOMER CONFIRMS DOCTRINE

THE SOULCRAFT Chaplain of Alameda, Calif., sends confirmation of many of the Soulcraft tenets in the following report to Headquarters—

"Back in 1936 I saved a newspaper clipping, carrying a dispatch from Pasadena which might be of interest to other Soulcrafters about the nation, as confirming the Soulcraft teachings—

"Dr. Gustav Stromberg, Mount Wilson astronomer, believes the essence of all living elements is indestructible. 'The individual Memory is the living entity that can never be destroyed', he said today. 'The Soul is the owner of the Memory, the personality behind it. It retains this memory in latent form at Death. Seemingly a soul can never be annihilated. In what form it survives is not known. That it may temporarily or currently be submerged, there is a certain degree of evidence.'

"Stromberg said his study leaps to the inevitable conclusion that there is a World-Soul or God in the Cosmic Will. Declaring that recent great discoveries in Physics has thrown new light on the problems he attempts to solve, Dr. Stromberg continues—

"Of particular importance is the discovery that both Matter and Light have the properties of particles as well as of waves. Particles are guided by waves in their motions and atoms and molecules are inflated by wave systems which give them their structural properties. These waves systems apply to people as well as to the Universe," he said. "And the living wave systems can contract as well as expand. When they have completely disappeared, the living elements have lost their contact with the physical world of space and time. This is the real meaning of death."





## Who Were the Essenes and Was Christ Ever a Member of the Order?

### Facts You Should Know that Indicate Early Christians Expanded Desert Sect

**I**T IS the purpose of the Soulcraft Doctrine to make its students as erudite as possible in all the religious faiths and orders of the past, so that the fundamentals tenets of Soulcraft may rest upon a wisdom that is unassailable in its own right. One of the most interesting and challenging sects of the times antedating Jesus was that of the Essenes. Soulcrafters should know what there is to know about the Society of Essenes . . .

Generally this might be said of it: that it was a monastic order among the Jews prior to Christianity. The Essenes' first appearance in history came in the time of Jonathan the Maccabee—between 161 and 144 B. C. How much older they have been, we have no means of determining, but most authorities agree in assigning them a dateless antiquity.

The original accounts we have of them are confined to three authors: Philo, Pliny, the Elder, and Josephus. Philo describes them in his *Apology for the Jews*. Pliny has a short but striking sketch of them, taken evidently from Polyhistor's *Natural History*. Josephus treats of them in his *Jewish War*. He also has interesting accounts of the prophetic powers (clairvoyance) possessed of three personages in the sect, Judas, Menahem, and Simon. Besides this, he mentions an Essene Gate in Jerusalem and a person called John the Essene, one of the bravest and most capable leaders in the war against the Romans.

**T**HE ESSENES were an exclusive society, distinguished from the rest of the Jewish nation in Palestine by an organization peculiar to themselves, and by a theory of life in which a severe asceticism and a rare benevolence to one another and to mankind in general were the most striking characteristics.

They had fixed for initiation, a succe-

sion of strictly separate grades within the limits of the society, and regulations for the conduct of daily life down to minutest details. Their membership could be recruited from the outside world only, as marriage and all intercourse with women were completely renounced.

They were the first society in the world to condemn slavery both in theory and practice; they enforced and practiced the most complete community of goods. From this structure has been reported the claims that they were the world's first Communists. That Karl Mordecai, alias Marx, took over many of the tenets of Essenism for his ideas for *Das Kapital* from their purer forms, we can have small doubt.

**H**OWEVER, counterposed from the rest of Jewry, the Essenes chose their own priests and public office-bearers, and even their own judges.

Though the prevailing tendencies of the Essenes were practical, and the tenets of the society were kept a profound secret, it is perfectly clear from the testimony of Philo and Josephus—who had joined with them for a brief time as young men—that they cultivated a kind of speculation (esoteric?) which accounted not only for their spiritual ascetism but indicated a great deviation from the normal development of Judaism, and a profound sympathy with Greek philosophy, and to a degree with oriental ideas. This is probably a polite way of phrasing that they followed the Orphic or Eleusinian Mysteries of Plato and Pythagoras, who had lived four hundred to six hundred years before them, embracing belief in Reincarnation.

It is intriguing to note how these basic truths of life have been kept alive from era to era down the centuries, coexisting with all the orthodox manifestations of religions and refusing to be buried or exterminated . . .

**T**HERE is some difficulty in determining how far the Essenes separated themselves locally from their fellow countrymen. Josephus informs us they had no single city of their own, but that

many of them dwelt in every city—not unlike Soulcrafters of the present. While in his treatise Philo speaks of their avoiding towns and preferring to live in villages, we find them living in many cities, towns, and villages. In Pliny they are a colony settled on the western shores of the Dead Sea.

On the whole, as Philo and Josephus agree in estimating their number as around 4,000, we are justified in suspecting some exaggeration as to the many cities, towns, and villages wherein they were found. As agriculture was their favorite occupation, and as their tendency was to withdraw from the ordinary haunts and interests of mankind, we may assume that with the growing confusion and corruption of Jewish society they felt themselves attracted from the mass of the population to the sparsely peopled districts, till they found a congenial settlement and free scope for their peculiar views of life and immortality by the Dead Sea. While their principles were consistent with the neighborhood of men, they were better adapted to a state of isolation.

**T**HE Essenes did not renounce marriage because they denied the validity of the institution or the necessity for it as providing for the continuance of the human race, but because they had a low opinion of the character of women. They adopted children when very young, and brought them up on their own principles. In other words, they let the rest of the human race do the procreational "sinning" while they took the fruits of it expressed in whatever children they could annex. Pleasure generally they rejected as evil. They despised riches no less than pleasure. Neither poverty nor wealth was observable among them. At initiation, everyone gave his property into the common stock, and every member in receipt of wages handed them over to the funds of the society.

In matters of dress, the asceticism of the society was very pronounced.





They regarded oil as a defilement, even washing it off if anointed with it against their wills. They did not change their clothing nor their shoes till they were torn in pieces or worn completely away. The color of their garments was always white, although what sort of white we may be left to conjecture if they never changed their clothes until they fell to pieces on them.

Their daily routine was prescribed for them in the strictest manner. Before the rising of the sun they were to speak of nothing secular or profane, but offer to the sun certain traditional forms of prayer, as though beseeching it to rise. In this they seem to touch somewhat upon the principles of the Zoroastrians. Thereafter they went about their daily tasks, working industriously at whatever trades they knew till the fifth hour, when they assembled, and girding on a garment of linen, bathed in cold water. They next seated themselves quietly in the one dining hall, where the baker set bread in order, and the cook brought each a single dish of one kind of food. Before meals and after them, grace was said by a priest. After dinner they resumed work till sunset. After sunset they had supper, at which guests of the order joined them, if there happened to be such present. Withal there was no noise or confusion to mar the tranquility of their intercourse. No one usurped more than his share of the conversation. The stillness of the eating-place impressed the stranger with a sense of mysterious awe. This composure of spirit was owing to their perfect temperance in eating and drinking.

Not only in the daily routine of the society, but generally, the activity of their members was controlled by their presidents. In only two things could they take the initiative: helpfulness and mercy. The deserving poor and the destitute were to receive instant relief, but no member could give anything to his relatives without consulting the heads of the society. These heads were elected.

They had also their special courts of justice, which were composed of not less than a hundred members, and their decisions, arrived at with great care, were irreversible. Oaths were strictly forbidden; their word was considered stronger than any oath. They were just and tem-

perate in anger, guardians of good faith, and the ministers of the peace obedient to the elders and the majority.

But the moral characteristics which they most earnestly cultivated and enjoined, best appear in their rules of initiation. There was a novitiate of three years, during which the intended member was tested for his fitness to become a member of the whole. If the result was satisfactory he was admitted, but before partaking of the common meal he was required to swear awful oaths that he would reverence the Deity, do justice to men, hurt no man voluntarily or at the command of another, hate the unjust and assist the just, and render fidelity to all men—especially the rulers of the society—seeing that no one ruled but God. He also vowed, if he should rule himself, to make no violent use of his power nor outshine those set under him, by superior display, but make his aim to cherish truth and unmask liars, to be pure from theft and unjust gain, to conceal nothing from his fellow-members nor divulge any of the affairs of the society to other men, even at risk of death. He would help to transmit their doctrines unchanged, and to keep the books of the society and the names of the "angels."

**WITHIN** the limits of the society there were four grades so distinct that if anyone even so much as touched a member of an inferior grade, he was required to cleanse himself by bathing immediately in water. Brotherly love, apparently, did not extend to inferiors.

Members who had been found guilty of serious crimes were expelled from the society and could not be received again till reduced to the last extremity of want or illness.

As the result of the ascetic training of the Essenes, and of their temperate diet, they are said to have lived to great ages, and were superior to pain or fear. During the Roman war they cheerfully underwent the most grievous tortures rather than break the principles of their faith. In fact, they had in many respects reached the very highest moral elevation attained in the ancient world. They were just, humane, benevolent, and spiritual-minded. The sick and aged were the objects of a particularly affectionate regard.

(Continued on Page 10)



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## THE FOG

A BEST-SELLING NOVEL

By William Dudley Pelley

**T**HE FOG tells the story of the difficulties of an ordinary American boy, groping his way through the mists of adolescence to find his place in the world and overcome the handicap of a stupid, inhibited parentage.

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THERE are 500 closely printed pages in *The Fog*, and the author bought the original plates and struck off a reprint edition in 1940. Of this edition 127 copies on white paper in grey cloth covers now remain. There are no esoterics in the theme of this book. It is purely and unabashedly a novel, but its uplift in its climax is tremendous.

Your Pelley bookshelf is incomplete without "The Fog" and you should include it in your next order. **\$2.50**

SOULCRAFT PRESS, INC.



# VALOR

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**SOULCRAFT CHAPELS**

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## Big Words

**E**VERY little while the lament comes in, that the Soulcraft Doctrine as expounded in the Scripts and Broadcasts contains too many eight pound words. Why can't the terminology be simple and concise and expressed in common parlance? The query is logical and yet there are many reasons why common parlance is inadequate.

The English language, according to a tally of Webster's Unabridged Dictionary, contains something like 225,000 words. Each one of those words has come into existence and usage—when they are used—to express a definite idea, or shade of meaning of an idea. The vocabulary of the average American citizen the year around does not contain more than 1,500 words, and as a rule around 500. Such a vocabulary means a limitation of expression.

When a person doesn't do much thinking, or expressing of new ideas, 500 words serve him. They serve him in the ordinary intercourse of human society, getting him his creature comforts, passing the time of day, commenting upon the weather or the latest tax levies of the Administration. But immediately the beaten track of commonplace ideas is abandoned, new terms must come into employment to convey those ideas. You can't get into a new motorcar, fresh off the Detroit assembly line, and drive it by the old bucolic admonitions of "Gid-dap!" and "Whoa!"

Soulcraft is a great new agenda of spiritual ideas, opening new vistas of possibilities for the human spirit, soliciting it to try new trails in mental conceivings, conveying new imaginings for the soul to deploy in. They are, in effect, project-

ed to jolt the moribund human ego out of its academic mediocrity and impel it forward and upward into new philosophical performings.

Of course there are people who prefer not to be jolted. "Give us things simple," such people cry, "because improving ourselves mentally and linguistically is too much trouble for us to essay." Only they don't say "linguistically" and "essay". Usually they put it, "It's too much trouble to hunt a dictionary."

But hunting a dictionary and learning new words and concepts is an effort toward self-improvement that such people may need most!

Turning Soulcraft's terminology into common parlance, therefore, is difficult because—without bombast—it is too intricate for commonplace vocabularies. It has to be expressed in exact shades of meaning. Those exact shades of meaning are expressed by specific words. Those words have come into usage and won their places in all the best dictionaries because of what they are. The Doctrine has to be recorded in the exact terms the Higher Mentors employ to get those delicate nuances of meaning across to us—and even so they are handicapped, even by the profligacy of 225,000 English words!

Actually the Scripts—for the student who stays with them—are a liberal education in the use of the English language. Never be ashamed to read them with the dictionary handy. Look upon the dictionary not as adversary but as compatriot.

## Approaches

**O**NE of the Soulcraft leaders in Milwaukee has solved the problem of how to distinguish people who might have interest in the Scripts. "I get him talking about his church attendance," this particular Chaplain declared. "I may meet a given man in a bank or a lunchroom. I may be riding home with him on the interurban bus. Perhaps I have a paper before me in which is a headline about a local church activity. It's comparatively easy to introduce the subject of current-day religion. One of the most effective has been the observation, 'I see

where, in ten thousand Baptist churches last year, there wasn't a single baptism by immersion.' My companion as a good church-member may defend the church stoutly and give me an argument. I don't try to go further with him. If he has his spiritual Light shining from orthodoxy, God bless him, let him follow it. But if he reacts with an acrid observation about 'all denominations being rackets or otherwise indicates that theological religion is failing him in the life he's living, I begin to tell him as man to man what I've discovered in Soulcraft. In nine cases out of ten, by the time we're ready to part, he's interested to read the pocket brochure, *What Soulcraft Is, or Metaphysics for the Multitude*. All in the line of give-and-take conversation."

The job of the Soulcraft People isn't to go out and "sell" America on the tenets of their discoveries. It's to winnow out those harassed mature souls who may be ready to examine it because they've out grown the conventional religion that satisfies the crowd.

"I know something that's a gold-mine for peace of mind!" is the proper mental angle on all of it.

The whole nation is groping pathetically for peace of mind at present. We have something to share with the man in the street—or the lunchroom or bank or interurban bus. Let's pass it on to him.

There's more where we got ours.

## Ave Maria

**T**HE POPE has just decreed for millions of Roman Catholics that they shall believe that Christ picked up His mother, some 1900 years ago, and bore her up to "heaven" physically—this despite the fact that Sacred Writ nowhere makes mention of such a touching circumstance. No particular moral harm is contained in such assumption, however, and Protestants who sneer might find just as many incredulities in their own excesses of denominationalism. But there are greater and more important points to be considered in this aspect of Christianity.

The Roman Church is a world-wide organization devoted not so much to the worship of Christ as to the worship of



His mother. Millions of the younger generation are not aware that the dogma of the Immaculate Conception was not pronounced official for Catholics until the 8th of December, 1854—about 96 years ago. On that date Pope Pius IX defined the tenet of belief for this branch of the world's Christians in the following terms:

"The doctrine which holds that the Blessed Virgin Mary, from the first instant of her conception, was, by a most singular grace and privilege of Almighty God, in view of the merits of Jesus Christ, the Redeemer of the human race, preserved from all taint of Original Sin, is a doctrine revealed by God, and therefore to be firmly and steadfastly believed by all the faithful."

These words presupposed the distinction between original, or racial, and actual, or personally incurred sin. There is no dispute that the Church has always held the Blessed Virgin to be sinless, in the sense of actual or personal sin. The question of the Immaculate Conception regards racial or original sin only.

It is admitted that the doctrine as defined by Pius IX was not explicitly mooted before the Twelfth Century. But it was claimed that it is implicitly contained in the teachings of the Fathers. Their expressions on the subject of the Sinlessness of Mary are, it is pointed out, so ample and so absolute that they must be taken to include original sin as well as actual.

The well-known words of St. Augustine may be cited: "As regards the mother of God, I will not allow any question of sin." It is true that he was speaking of actual or personal sin. But his argument is, that all men are sinners; that they are so, through original depravity; that this original depravity may be overcome by the grace of God, and he adds that he does not know but that Mary may have had sufficient grace to overcome "sin of every sort."

TO PROTESTANTS, perhaps, it is all most pedantic. It was St. Bernard in the Twelfth Century who first raised the question of the Immaculate Conception, which Saint Thomas Aquinas, the greatest of the medieval scholastics, refused to admit. To Soulcrafters of the present, if the supernal Golden Scripts declare that "I was born of physical con-

## Soulcraft Chapels . .

are now being held in 30 cities across America, and the number is increasing. Each is presided over by a Chaplain and equipped with an Electronic Voice Recorder. Once each week the Chaplain receives a Wire or Tape reel from Soulcraft Headquarters, on which has been recorded the current number of the Soulcraft Scripts, interspersed with sacred music. Mr. Pelley's own voice comes from the machine, reading the latest number of the Scripts as he has prepared it, and having the effect of his being present in person. The readings require exactly one hour, and each Discourse in Soulcraft closes with a Master Message from the supernal *Golden Scripts*. The whole constitutes an inexpressibly beautiful semi-religious service, rich with new and startling truths about divine fundamentals. Anyone may start a Chapel upon the acquiring of a Voice Recorder. The wire or tape is merely threaded across the sound-head, the voice volume adjusted, and an hour of edifying discourse heard. Expenses are defrayed by free-will offerings . . .

Write for information about the nearest Chapel

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## Thousands of You Have Heard . .

### "The SONG OF THE NILE"

Did you know it came from the motion picture *Drag*, made from the novel by William Dudley Pelley? *Drag* was the first all-talkie movie made by Warner Brothers-First National, starring Richard Barthelmess. The only music throughout the film was *Song of the Nile* and it made motion-picture history. Mr. Pelley had taken all the humorous incidents happening to him in a decade as a newspaper publisher and incorporated them into one book, telling the side-splitting story of a naive young newspaper reporter, insufferably surrounded by relatives who demanded to be supported by him merely because he was successful—the common plight of thousands.

## "DRAG"

may be secured in a reprint edition from original plates, done by Soulcraft Press, Inc. 800 copies are available at this date, in cloth covers, on white paper stock, and priced at \$2.50 per copy. Include it in your order!

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## GOLDEN SCRIPTS



**T**HERE are 844 pages of them, done on Bible paper and bound in limp round-cornered covers. To those who have "discovered" them, they amount to new Sermons on the Mount, coming apparently from the Elder Brother's supernal intellect for His disciples in this modern generation. They cover every personal and ethical subject troubling spiritually hungry people of today. Originally brought out in New Bible form in 1940 there are 75 copies available at present, which are offered while they last for \$5 the copy. They will probably not be printed again in this complete form again for several years. Send your order in quickly, or better still, telegraph it, without delay, that a copy may be saved for you. Copies of this work at private sale have already brought \$20.

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ception even as yourselves," it by no means makes Mary "sinful" unless the scurrilous idea be entertained that all procreation be sinful. Mary was a mother, and motherhood is beautiful.

The point that is important is, that despite the pedantry of Roman Catholicism, the same God and Son and moral law is venerated as distinguish Christians anywhere. If it be deemed devout to extend extra honors to Mary, Jesus' mother, why should non-Catholics be churlish about it?

Read the memorable Fourth Script of Soulcraft about the Master's "awakening", then read the Master epilogue to the 13th Script on Fundamentalism.

We don't need to incur rancors over whether or not Jesus carried his mother up to heaven. Our worries should rather be, how are we treating our own mothers. Let Romanists venerate Mary if they choose. Let's be sure in our own turn that we venerate that host of goodly and faithful women who "bringed us up" and put us under obligations we can never repay.

Every woman who bears a child and raises it, is, in essence a private Mary. More power to all of them.

*There are worse agencies loose in this world than Catholics who memorialize Jesus for being considerate of His mother!*

### Awakening When?

**O**NE of these days the clergymen of this nation will awaken to what is being disclosed and made available to them in Soulcraft. When that day comes, the change in the spiritual thinking of this nation will be terrific. Today they regard it as merely another metaphysical cult, competing with them for the pennies of the devout.

If we are in touch with the Mentors we believe we are, the enlightenment disclosed surpasses in importance anything that has happened to society since the Star flashed over Bethlehem. But it will take time for humanity to discover it. When will humanity—and the spiritual leaders of humanity—awaken to the import of what is happening?

One thing is certain: Those who recognize its significance from the first will undoubtedly find themselves prepared and poised for upheavals ahead.



## ANCIENT SCROLLS TELL OF JESUS' FIRST BIRTH

### Christ's Ministry Attested by New Evidence Found in Cave in Palestine

Chicago, Nov. 21—Ancient scrolls discovered in the Holy Land give "proof" for the first time that Christ's coming actually was foretold before he came, a high Syrian religious authority said today.

It is hoped that "soon" the latest interpretations of the ancient scrolls can be published, along with translations, His Grace Mar Athanasius Yeshu Samuel, the Syrian Archbishop of Jerusalem, said.

The archbishop, who brought several of the scrolls to the United States, said as the result of study of the Isaiah scroll it is regarded as indisputable fact that Christ's coming was foretold long before the event took place.

The scroll, which contains the entire book of Isaiah and verses foretelling the Messiah, predates Christ's birth by several centuries.

Many persons believe the Isaiah scroll found in the Dead Sea cave was the same manuscript placed in Jesus' hands in the temple as a youth when his followers wanted to show him how his coming had been awaited, as described in the New Testament (Luke IV:17).

Many circumstances point to this belief, the archbishop said—the location of the cave, near where the temple probably stood; the careful state of preservation; and the likelihood that these scrolls may have been placed there by close followers of Christ.

The scrolls also give the "most positive" indication of where John the Baptist went when he meditated in the desert, the archbishop said. John probably joined up with the Essenes, an ancient sect which believed in repentance, group piety and which expressed early dissatisfaction with pre-Christian religious forms.

The "Manual of Discipline" scroll contains these ideas later expressed by John, and also has many parallels to phrases in the New Testament Book of John—"I am the way," "eternal life" and "children of light."

## "Why I Believe the Dead Are Alive!"

**D**O YOU BELIEVE IN GHOSTS? Have you ever had any experience with manifestations of disembodied intelligence? If you are skeptical of survival of the human personality, what evidence would you require to be submitted to you, convincing you that human souls are more alive after shedding their bodies than they were while occupying them? *Are you open to conviction?*

EVER since boyhood, the man who later was to project the great doctrine of SOULCRAFT had encountered supernatural experiences in his life that could not be accounted for by rational explanations. With maturity these increased. The strangest of coincidences happened in his affairs. With the opening of World War I, he got his first irrefutable evidence of survival of a soul after death of body, when his deceased brother-in-law "communicated" with him after losing his life in the American armed forces. Since that episode, supernatural evidence of Survival has been constant and overwhelming—culminating in 1940 with the full-grown and substantial materialization of his oldest daughter Harriet, attesting to her identity by her knowledge of his life and intimate family affairs.

### 302 Pages of Manifest Evidence

FINALLY, in 1942, the author put the whole uncanny story between one pair of covers. Starting from his own skeptical beginnings in psychical matters he traced his progress in making himself familiar with all phases of the supernatural, not overlooking the cultivation of his own clairaudient powers that resulted in his recordings of the transcendent Scripts of SOULCRAFT. He called this frank and startling book: *Why I Believe the Dead Are Alive!* It is a book that belongs in the hands of every student of SOULCRAFT, that he may be thoroughly conversant with the mystical happenings that brought the SOULCRAFT doctrine into present-day human thought. Ignore its findings you cannot. It shares honors with Flammarion's *Haunted Houses* for its incontestable evidence and wealth of detail.

SECULAR history attests that every molder of religious thought from Moses and St. Paul down to John Wesley and Mary Baker Eddy was influenced in his or her life by supernatural happenings or transcendent clairaudience. The author of *Why I Believe the Dead Are Alive* has only been interested in such matters from the sacred viewpoint. He accepts that clarification of old-time religious faith is coming out of his findings. Read this book yourself before passing your opinion, however. Withal it is an entrancing narrative to peruse.

**WE HAVE 164 copies of this book in deluxe leatherette binding for sale at \$4 the copy, and 644 copies of the clothbound edition on white paper stock at \$2.50 the copy. Address—SOULCRAFT PRESS, INC., Box 192, Noblesville, Indiana**





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### ESSENES

And they condemned slavery not only as an injustice but as an impious violation of the natural brotherhood of men.

Nevertheless, they were Judaists.

They held tenaciously to the traditional law-giving of Moses, blasphemy against their law-giver was punishable by death, they rejected logic as unnecessary to the acquisition of virtue, and speculation on nature as too lofty for human intellect. The sacred books were preserved and read with great reverence, and the Sabbath was most scrupulously observed. However, they did reject animal sacrifice as well as marriage; the oil with which kings and priests were anointed they considered unclean, and the condemnation of oaths and community of goods were unmistakable innovations for which they found no hint nor warnings in the old Hebrew writings. *Their most singular feature, perhaps, was their reverence for the sun.*

**I**N their speculative hints respecting the nature of the soul and the future state, we find another important deviation from Judaism, and the explanation of their asceticism. They held that the body was mortal and its substance transitory; that the soul was immortal, but, coming from the subtlest ether, was lured as by a sorcery of Nature into the prison-house of the body. At death it was released as from slavery, and soared joyously aloft. To the souls of the good there was reserved a life beyond the ocean, and a country oppressed by neither rain, snow, nor heat, but refreshed by gentle wind blowing ceaselessly from the sea. But the wicked went to an abode of wintry darkness. Josephus tells us that the Essenes believed in fate—or Karma—but in what sense, and what relation it bore to Divine Providence, does not appear.

Granting then that some foreign influence had been at work in Essenism, we have four theories offered to us—that this influence was Persian, Buddhist, Pythagorean, or lastly, as maintained by Lipsius, that of the surrounding Syrian heathenism. Each of these views has had able advocates, but it must not be supposed they were mutually exclusive.

The fact that the Pharisees and



Sadducees so often figure in the pages of the New Testament, while the Essenes are never mentioned, might plausibly be interpreted to show that the New Testament emanated from the side of the Essenes. So far as concerns the Epistle of St. James this interpretation would probably be correct. That work contains the doctrine common to the Essenes with Plato, and suggestive of Persian or Zoroastrian Dualism—that God is the author of good only. There are also certain points of resemblance between the Essenes and the early Christians. Both held property in common; both had scattered communities which received guests one from the other, both avoided a light use of oaths, both taught passive obedience only to political authority. The list might be enlarged, but it would not necessarily prove more than that the early Christians shared in the highest ideals of their age.

Christianity was to some extent a popularization of Essenism, but there is no evidence anywhere, either in Judaism, Essenism, or Christianity, that Jesus was an Essene. The very nature of His subsequent moral size throughout the world would have established the connection, in the nature of human vanities, had it truly been a fact. That the Essenes, a hundred and fifty years before Jesus appeared and taught, advocated many of the moral and spiritual attributes that later distinguished Christ's teachings, did not make Him an Essene merely because He taught them.

Anyhow, Essenism vanished in the popularization of early Christianity. Much of the monastic life of the Middle Ages, however, was Essenism in purest form. What difference does it make today?

Men of all society can't withdraw into desert villages, foreswear marriage, and live lives of isolation premised on queer doctrine. *Doctrine must be of such a nature that it teaches all men to live nobly and courageously wherever life finds them.*

Nevertheless, it is notable that Essenism appeared as and when it did. It showed that whenever the times get dour across the world, there is ever a segment of humanity that turns its faces to higher life-patterns. It is the basic nature of man to do this.

He is essentially divine.

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IF YOU'RE not getting your Scripts regularly every week, don't blame it on Headquarters. Blame it on the United States mails. Scripts are put in the Post Office every Wednesday for the Sunday night chapels two weeks ahead. They are printed two months in advance. Headquarters cannot do more than this.

Inquiry at the Post Office develops the interesting information that serious congressional cuts in Post Office funds has compelled the Post Office to lay off employees while the mails are stacking up to the point where only First Class mail can be given prompt attention.

Noblesville's mail clears through the Indianapolis post office. Second and third-class mail is stacked up in the Indianapolis post office in unprecedented amounts. Congress evidently figures there is only so much money to go around, and with the Administration's foreign commitments, and the Defense Program allocations, the United States mails have to wait.

You can rest assured that if your Soulcraft Script doesn't arrive, it's bogged down somewhere along the line in the United States mails. Postal employees are not allowed to work overtime, much as a corps of willing local men would like to see the congestion cleared.

Sorry.

That's the way it is. Snafu! Situation Normal—All Fouled Up!

And due to get worse—on account of Christmas traffic—before it gets better!

A WIDOW consulted a medium who put her into communication with her late husband.

“Peter,” the woman asked, “are you happy now?”

“Very happy,” replied the spirit of Peter.

“Are you happier than when you were in earth-life with me?”

“Yes, I am far happier than when I was in earth-life with you.”

“Tell me, Peter, what is it like in heaven?”

“Heaven!” exclaimed Peter. “I'm not in heaven!”